

Message Text

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ACTION DHA-02

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FOR D/HA

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: UNHCR

SUBJECT: 27TH UNHCR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION: PREPARATION
AND PLANNING

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED TODAY TWO APPROACHES CONCERNING UNHCR
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SESSION:

A. NORWEGIAN FIRST SECRETARY HAROLD HOSTMARK CALLED
CONCERNING ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN FOR SESSION AND SUGGEST-
ING THAT WESTERN NATIONS LINE UP ON AGREED CANDIDATE. HE
PROPOSED AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR O.L. DAVIS, STATING THAT
HE HAD ALREADY APPROACHED SEVERAL OTHER WESTERN STATES,
WITH POSITIVE REACTIONS. QUERIED AS TO OTHER POSSIBLE
CANIDATES, HOSTMARK REPLIED HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY, AND
IT WAS PRECISELY FOR THIS REASON HE WISHED TO LAUNCH
DIVIS' CANDIDACY AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO PRECLUDE
ANY GROUND SWELL FOR LESS ACCEPTABLE POSSIBILITIES.

COMMENT: MISSION ALSO IS UNAWARE OF OTHER POSSIBILITIES
FOR CHAIRMAN AT THIS TIME, BUT IS EXPLORING MATTER WITH
UNHCR SECRETARIAT. DAVIS IS WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN
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TO MISSION, HOWEVER, AND SHOULD MAKE EXCELLENT CHAIRMAN.

END COMMENT.

B. MR. DANIEL LACK, GENERAL COUNSEL OF AJDC, AND CHAIRMAN OF NGO WORKING GROUP STUDYING DRAFT CONVENTION ON TERRITORIAL ASYLUM, CALLED TO REQUEST U.S. SUPPORT OR CO-SPONSERSHIP OF RESOLUTION FROM EXCOM WHICH WOULD PERMIT WORKING GROUP'S PARTICIPATION IN COMING CONFERENCES ON TERRITORIAL ASYLUM IN OBSERVER STATUS. LACK SAID HIS GROUP HAD BEEN REPRESENTED AT SIMILAR CONFERENCES, AUCH LOS, BUT ITS PARTICIPATION IN THOSE RELATING TO TERRITORIAL ASYLUM AHD BEEN OPPOSED BY "CERTAIN EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES" WHO, ACCORDING TO HIM, ARE NOT WELL DISPOSED EITHER TO SUBJECT OF TERRITORIAL ASYLUM OR TO NGO'S. WORKING GROUP WILL PRESENT STATEMENT AS CUSTOMARY DURING DEBATE ON INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PROTECTION, AGENDA ITEM 4. ITS WORK IS REFERRED TO IN PARA 24 OF DOCUMENT AC.96/527. LACK IS FORWARDING NEW WORKING GROUP TEXT ON TERRITORIAL ASYLUM TO MISSION FOR INFORMATION, TOGETHER WITH POINTS SUPPORT-ING BID FOR OBSERVER STATUS. IT WAS AGREED THAT AFTER STUDY OF THESE PAPERS, A MEETING WOULD BE ARRANGED TO DISCUSS SUBJECT FURTHER.

2. ALTHOUGH UNAWARE OF OTHER CANDIDATES FOR CHAIRMAN, WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S ADVICE SOONEST WHETHER A PRIORI THERE WOULD BE ANY OBJECTION TO OUR SUPPORT OF DAVIS. WE WOULD ALSO WELCOME ANY GUIDANCE RELATIVE TO LACK'S APPROACH. (IN CONVERSATION, LACK STATED HE AND HIS WORK WERE WELL-KNOWN TO CARLIN.)CATTO

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